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schools for which the book was primarily prepared. The typographical clearness is especially to be commended.

A. L. UNDERHILL.

*Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, Proceedings of the Twentieth Annual Meeting*, June 26–29, 1912, Vol. XX, Part II. Published by the Secretary, Professor H. H. Norris, Ithaca, N. Y. xxii + 508 pages. \$1.25 to non-members.

This volume is a splendid example of what may be done to share with all the members of a society and with others outside the society the full benefits of the annual meetings. According to the well-arranged statistics which form the introduction, the membership of the Society numbered 1,166, while only 215 members and guests attended the Boston meeting; yet the report of the treasurer shows that with an annual fee of four dollars the budget makes possible the distribution to members of the full proceedings of the annual meetings as well as of a monthly *Bulletin*. Why may not this be done in more of our American societies than is the case at present, whether these are directly educational or not? It is at times exceedingly difficult to obtain certain papers on a given program, inasmuch as the publishing of these is scattered over a wide range of journals. This *Bulletin* by the way affords an active forum for a live and even spicy discussion of matters bearing particularly on the teaching of engineering subjects, and enables a group of members to carry on during the year an exchange of opinions and a comparison of methods which cannot at all take place with such fullness and deliberation in connection with the all too crowded programs. The practical question fairly forces itself upon our attention as to the possibility of such interchanges on the part of those interested in the teaching of mathematics. A suggestion lies close at hand. Can this be done through the columns of the AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL MONTHLY?

Another valuable feature is the animated discussions which follow the presentation of a set of papers clustering about a common topic, as witness the shorter comments and somewhat more extended criticisms in the *Bulletin* called forth by a paper on "The Teaching of Elementary Physics" by Professors Franklin and MacNutt, or the discussion following a valuable report by Professor W. T. Magruder which collates the results of an investigation of the mechanical engineering laboratories in more than twenty-five institutions in this country with regard to equipment, personnel and methods. The remarks made are always "parliamentary" and in good spirit, but are given now and again "without gloves"; and woe be to the man who has a hobby, or who expresses his opinions either immoderately or vaguely!

Aside from the articles just referred to, there may be singled out for mention papers on "The Faculty Seminar" by Professor H. H. Norris, on "The Hydraulic Equipment at the Ohio State University" by Professor Horace Judd and on "The Engineering Laboratories of the Royal Technical University at Charlottenburg, Germany" by Mr. R. R. Heuter.

The volume may be obtained directly from the Secretary of the Society.

W. DEW. CAIRNS.